(iv) Purchase of new vehicles has been banned.

The consumption of petrol/diesel is being continuously monitored on the basis of the monthly reports received from the Ministries/ Departments. The available information till August, 1991 from 24 Government Departments indicates a saving of 17.76% during 1991-92 (April-August) as compared to the same period in 1989-90 in respect of petrol consumption. Similar information in respect of diesel (HSD) from 5 Departments indicates a saving of 37.15%.

**Posts under Delhi Judicial Service**

284. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts sanctioned so far under Delhi Judicial Service;

(b) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the number of reserved posts still lying vacant; and

(c) the reasons for not filling up these posts so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The number of posts so far sanctioned is 218 (133 permanent and 85 temporary).

(b) and (c). The number of posts reserved are filled up as per 40-Point Roster that is being maintained. The Delhi High Court is making efforts to fill up vacant posts. The Delhi Judicial Service Examination, 1991 was to be held and suitable candidates located. The said Examination has since been held on 11th to 13th October, 1991.

**Price Rise**

285. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wholesale prices of many items rose after the presentation of budget for 1991-92;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to contain the price rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The wholesale prices of some items such as fertilizers, levy sugar, petroleum products other than diesel and kerosene, paper and paper products, machinery and machine tools, transport equipment and parts etc. increased after the presentation of the budget due to changes in administered prices and excise duties on certain items for fiscal discipline, large liquidity overhang inherited from the past, inflationary expectations built into the system over the past year, and the uneven progress of the monsoon until late August, 1991.

(c) Management of inflation is the highest priority for the Government. The important steps taken by the Government to contain price rise include a substantial reduction in fiscal deficit, check on expansion of money supply to curb effective demand, more effective management of supply and demand of essential/sensitive commodities, streamlining of Public Distribution System, providing incentives for higher production and saving and strict action against hoarders and profiteers.